

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A device for feeding bags (1) having a spout (2) to a ~~star-type reel stand~~ carousel, a guide rail (4) cooperating with the spouts (2) being provided for moveably holding the bags (1) and having a removal end (8),

wherein an overslide (7) is provided which grips the bags (1) on the spout (2) in the region of the removal end (8) of the guide rail (4), and a drive (9) which moves the overslide (7) between a removal position (10) on the removal end (8) of the guide rail (4) and a feed position (11) on a circular path of holding elements (12) of the ~~star-type reel stand~~ carousel (3),

wherein the overslide (7) is disposed transversly and in a plane paralell to the guide rail (4).

Claim 2 (previously presented): The device according to Claim 1, wherein the overslide (7) has an active mechanical gripping mechanism.

Claim 3 (previously presented): The device according to Claim 2, wherein the gripping mechanism forms a gap (17) which can be varied in size for holding the spout (2).

Claim 4 (previously presented): The device according to Claim 3, wherein the overslide (7) has an upper part (14) with a downwardly pointing end portion (16) and a lower part moveably mounted relative to the upper part (14), the gap (17) being formed between the downwardly pointing end portion (16) and a lower part (15).

Claim 5 (previously presented): The device according to Claim 4, wherein the lower part (15) is mounted on a rail which is fixed relative to the upper part (14).

Claim 6 (cancelled)

Claim 7 (previously presented): The device according to claim 1, wherein the overslide (7) is spaced apart from the removal end (8) of the guide rail (4) by a distance smaller than a spout width.

Claim 8 (previously presented): The device according to claim 1, wherein a pivotable locking element is provided on the removal end (8) of the guide rail (4).

Claim 9 (currently amended): The device according to ~~claim 1~~ claim 4, wherein the drive (9) is connected to the lower part (15) of the overslide (7).

Claim 10 (currently amended): The device according to ~~claim 1~~ claim 3, wherein the gap (17) is formed such that the spout (2) can be gripped in an upper

region, in particular in the region of the thread (23), and a lower region for holding in the corresponding holding element (12) of the ~~star type reel stand~~ carousel (3) remains free.

Claims 11-15 (cancelled)

Claim 16 (previously presented): The device according claim 1, wherein a cyclical linear drive is provided which moves the bags (1) in the guide rail (4) towards the overslide (7).

Claim 17 (previously presented): The device according to Claim 16, wherein the cyclical linear drive comprises a push-in finger (6) which applies pressure in the direction of the overslide (7) to bags (1) located in the guide rail (4).

Claim 18 (currently amended): The device according to claim 1, wherein the ~~star type reel stand~~ carousel (3) has several inner carrousels (13).